

# UFO NEWS

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## AERIAL PHENOMENON CLIPPING INFORMATION CENTER

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# UFOs — a hard nut to crack

By ROBERT JACKSON

**IT'S the year's oddest most controversial milestone — the "official" 40th anniversary of the flying saucer. In Earth terms, that is. The phenomenon is, still tantalisingly with us . . .**

FORTY years after they first hit the world's headlines, flying saucers are back in the news.

It was in June, 1947, that American businessman Kenneth Arnold, piloting his light aircraft near the Cascade Mountain Range in the State of Washington, spotted nine huge gleaming objects flying at an estimated 1,200 mph — an unheard-of speed for any aircraft in those days.

Upon landing, Arnold described the motion of the objects as similar to saucers skimming over water. The Press headlined them as flying saucers — and the name has stuck ever since.



The latest sighting occurred early in January, when the crew of a Japan Airlines Boeing 747 freighter, flying from Iceland to Japan via Alaska, was shadowed by a mystery object for 30 minutes.

The 747's captain, Kenju Terauchi, described the object as huge and walnut-shaped — "very" big, about twice the size of an aircraft carrier." He said that it closed to within five miles of the aircraft, and asked US air traffic control for permission to take evasive action if necessary.

Controllers confirmed the existence of a large "blip" on their radar screens and said it might have been composed of three separate objects flying close together. The US Federal Aviation Administration has launched an investigation — so far without result.

Flying saucers — or Unidentified Flying Objects, to give them a more scientific title — have intrigued and sometimes terrified mankind for centuries.

In the 1950s, when the dawning space age gave impetus

to the notion that other intelligent beings might have the technology to cross light-years of space, flying saucer fever reached its peak — with the result that serious investigators have since found it difficult to sort out hard, documented facts from the mass of nonsense and trickery surrounding the subject.

Books claimed that the far side of the moon — which nobody had then seen — was a base for UFOs. Then Soviet and American probes photo-mapped the far side and showed that it was pretty much like the Earth side, except with more mountains — and never a UFO base to be seen. At that point the authors of the "authentic" flying saucer books quietly disappeared from the scene.

Nevertheless, there have been

many well-documented sightings of UFOs throughout recorded history.

The Bible itself contains a number of references that might apply to UFOs, if one's imagination stretches far enough; the most famous appears in the Book of Ezekiel, who tells how "a whirlwind came out of the north, a great cloud, and a fire enfolding itself, and a brightness was about it."



In recent years, there have been many UFO sightings by pilots and air traffic controllers — people not given to flights of fancy. Unexplained objects are treated very seriously by the staff of RAF Flyingdales and

other ballistic missile early warning stations around the world — but usually there is a rational explanation.

Falling satellite or rocket booster debris, for example, can produce a brilliant display as it burns up on re-entering the atmosphere and rocket launches can produce the same effect.

Some time ago, a series of glowing lights in the night sky caused near-panic in parts of South America until it was realised that they were caused by expended boosters from Russian space launches.

In England, a USAF colonel at Woodbridge, Suffolk, was convinced he has spotted a UFO in nearby woods. The local papers picked up the story and made headlines out of it.

Then it dawned on the colonel that all he had seen was the rotating beam of Orford Ness Lighthouse, flickering eerily through the trees.

UFO specialists are convinced that 98 per cent of sightings can be explained away. But that still leaves two per cent — including warship-size walnuts that chase Japanese airliners.



First sightings still leave the experts intrigued and and bewildered

## The aliens' mysterious signals that don't get through

By NICK FARRELL

NEXT month UFO-watchers will make a dramatic gesture to prove that extra-terrestrial beings are talking to us – but their message is being jammed.

The Aetherius Society claims that there is a massive cover-up by governments world-wide in cahoots with big business to blot out the aliens' message of peace.

Files on sightings of UFOs have been deliberately suppressed by governments for decades, says the London-based society.

The message from the aliens is "Service to Other People" coupled with mystical knowledge – they are the heralds of the new age, the Age of Aquarius.

But this is too much for the governments who rely on the arms race and wars for survival, says the society.

Next month the society, founded in 1956 by Sir George King, a yoga expert who claims over 600 "contacts" with aliens, stages the first major UFO symposium in the UK for over 10 years.

Society spokesman Dr John Holder said the aim of the "London Symposium of UFOs" was to blow the top off the "international governmental cover-up."

Dr Holder, a trained biochemist and part-time unit trust manager in the City, said he had personally seen over 100 UFOs since 1970.

"UFOs are trying to get through to this world with their message of peace but vested interest is stopping them," he said.

"There has been a total global cover-up – one of the reasons they give for not releasing information is that people would panic.

"That's rubbish. I work in the City and know what makes business, and as a result governments, tick – if the price of arms slumps they start a war. It's as

# UFO's . . . are they Big Business's big secret?



The Aetherius Society claim one in seven people believe in extra-terrestrial life . . .

simple as that," said Dr Holder.

"It's only thanks to relentless pressure from us and our colleagues in other countries that governments have been forced to admit they do monitor UFOs – something they have always denied."

The evidence now available,

claimed Dr Holder, included:

- An admission by the North American Aero-Space Command of 10 million "uncorrelated" observations in the past 20 years.

- An admission by the National Security Agency in America that it had nearly 300

documents on UFOs.

- An admission by the Federal Aviation Authority in America, after an initial denial, that it did monitor a spectacular UFO sighting reported by an airline pilot over Alaska last November.

- The Ministry of Defence admission in 1982 in a House of Lords debate on UFOs that in the previous four years it had record of 2,250 sightings – this was after consistent denials that it kept any records on UFOs.

What's more, the public is no where near as sceptical as the politicians would have us think, says the society.

Their special UFO hotline set up last month has already had reports of over 300 serious UFO sightings from air traffic controllers, radar operators and policemen among others, they say.



# TARGET WOMEN

A FEW years ago some friends of mine, who owned a farm in Wales, were driving a truckload of cattle back from market.

It was late evening, and as they steadily drove along the desolate, stony road, the cattle

became increasingly disturbed and uneasy.

The curious farmer stopped, put the break on, and climbed down onto the rough track, hurriedly blazing a torch along the rails of nervous stock that had now begun to stomp and kick furiously, rolling their large brown eyes back in

fearful anticipation.

The sky was dark and overclouded, and the lonely road bore no other lighting except for the glare of the vehicle's headlamps.

The farmer was baffled at the seemingly unfounded timidity of his cattle, and called to his brother to switch off the engine and take a look.

Both men suddenly became aware of a distant hum which grew louder by the minute, and as they looked up into the sky a brilliant light began to penetrate the area around the truck.

The humming became unbearable as the blinding glow covered their faces, making it impossible to see.

The brother panicked

and rushed back into the driver's seat, fumbling for the ignition key. The truck stalled.

"The devil she won't start" shrieked the terrified man. The farmer stormed up into the cab and pulled out the choke. Nothing happened.

## SCEPTICAL

Then, before they could do anything more, the incessant humming began to fade. As quickly as they had become enveloped in overpowering light, it speedily lifted from the truck, and with a huge 'swishing' noise

would have been rather sceptical of the whole affair if it had not been for the ashen faces of the two men.

This incredible but true story was told, not by fanciful dreamers whose imagination had been fired by fear, but two very ordinary, down to earth farming men, who knew more about the 'real' world than the fictitious chapters of a sci-fi book.

Strange phenomena and sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects are probably subjects which cause more controversy and scepticism than

## U.F.O.'s — Fact or fiction?

was gone in an instant.

The shaken driver's trembling hand turned on the ignition. It worked!

He put his foot hard on the accelerator and the truck lurched forward and sped down the country road.

When they arrived back at the farm, the mysterious tale was relayed to the family, who

anything else on our earth, yet the mysteries of space never fail to enthral and excite our insatiable curiosity.

Scientists may scoff at the claims of those who have personally experienced such encounters, but remain, all the same, completely baffled. Or do they?

There are hundreds, maybe thousands of people whose strange confrontations with U.F.O.'s have been officially reported yet rarely investigated openly.

## CLOSED DOORS

It is as if any suggestion of alien contact is quickly swept under the public carpet.

Yet one can hardly believe that the fascination of the 'unknown' cannot escape the searching mind of the average scientist.

Therefore, perhaps the only deduction to be made is that, that which is swept under the rug is in reality being intricately analysed in private.

Whatever we believe, it must surely be rather pompous of mankind to believe he is the only life form in the universe.

"The hands were very long and tapered when in repose, with three fingers and an opposable thumb... On the fingers were short, dark nails of a more clawlike appearance than ours.

"Either what is happening is that 'visitors' are actually here or the human mind is creating something that, incredibly, is close to a physical reality."

His book leaves the final choice to the reader.



by Ardelle Drewery

It is quite feasible to accept that any foreigner being capable of reaching our planet with the technical ease witnessed by so many people must, logically, be far advanced than we would ever imagine.

In their eyes (be they pink, green or red) the inhabitants of Earth probably seem quite moronic and hostile, and more on a par with the 'stoneage' era.

Therefore, any sensible spacing is not going to risk being blown out of orbit by the hasty actions of a weapon-happy society.

Their random probing would be a wiser subtle method of discovering the makeup of mankind.

If coverups do exist in research of this phenomena, then it is to prevent mass hysteria, for what we don't know will not harm us.

Whether UFO's exist, though, either in truth or simply in fertile suppositions, it is the deadly practices of mankind that are to be feared rather than the presence of any well-advanced, self-respecting little green man!

COLCHESTER EVENING  
GAZETTE, ESSEX  
JUNE 3 1987

## MEET 3128 A MAN WHO'S MET ALIENS

by FRED NORRIS

WHITLEY Strieber, a clean-cut, 42-year-old Texan lawyer, looked shattered when he finally arrived in Birmingham.

It was hardly surprising. In the past few months, he had been halfway around the world. There was no doubt about that — it was on record.

But Whitley Strieber, if one is to believe him, has also been in touch with UFO's and talked to intelligent non-human beings. Aliens.

There is, obviously, doubt about that. Not even a smart Texan lawyer can produce evidence enough to place it on record.

He has, however, done the next best thing: he has written a book about his extraordinary extra-terrestrial personal encounters of a far from blurred kind.

"They were real," he insists. "Incredibly, frighteningly real. At first I thought I was going crazy, completely out of my mind."

His book, *Communion* has already caused a sensation in the United States. It was snapped up by the American publisher, Morrow, for one million dollars and has since been selling at a staggering 100,000 copies a week in hardback.

## SCEPTICISM

It also, inevitably, brought a giant tidal wave of scepticism crashing against him. He accepts this as an understandable and normal reaction.

"If I thought myself mad, then how could I blame others for thinking the same about me?" he says.

"My experiences frightened me. And I wrote the book for all those other people who have been just as frightened — and perhaps too frightened to come forward and tell others about what they consider to be a nightmare."

Mr Strieber, married with a six-year-old son, looked hard at me: "I did not believe in UFO before this happened."

"And I would have laughed in the face of anybody who claimed contact. But now I know how some people must have suffered."

His "experiences" took place in an isolated cabin in upstate New York with his wife, Anne, and his son, Andrew. They started in December, 1985.

In his book, Mr Strieber says the aliens reminded him of grasshoppers or crickets.

# UFOs Stage Return, at Least in U.S.

## Popular Culture

By William J. Broad  
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The aliens are here again, at least in terms of popular culture, if not fact.

Three books about alien visits are selling briskly in the United States. One of them has topped the nonfiction best seller list for weeks. Clubs, newsletters, movies, and lectures about unidentified flying objects are generating revenues at a pace exceeded only in the 1950s, during the first wave of UFO sightings.

Some say that for 40 years the U.S. government has harbored physical evidence of an earthly encounter with extraterrestrial crea-

tures, including their dead bodies and damaged spacecraft.

That startling report, dismissed by skeptics and government officials as a laughable hoax, is contained in what are purportedly top-secret government papers dating from the days of President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Why the fascination with aliens, despite repeated failures over the decades to document their earthly arrival?

In interviews, psychologists, historians, philosophers and writers of science fiction said that belief in alien encounters was rooted in the need for secular messiahs, and the search for explanations for the troubles on earth.

"The urge to investigate and believe in this stuff is almost religious," said Ben Bova, former editor of *Omni* magazine and a writer of science fiction. "We used to have gods. Now we want to feel we're not alone, watched over by protective forces far beyond us."

Others, often sober, respectable scientists who have studied UFO reports for years, said the skeptics were missing the biggest story of the age.

"People who haven't been paying attention to this stuff are in for a shock," said Bruce Maccabee, a full-time Navy physicist in Washington, D.C., and a part-time UFO researcher. "Some sort of things

have been flying around for decades, and they aren't ours."

The current flurry of interest in UFOs is led by new books: "Communion" by Whitley Strieber, "Intruders" by Budd Hopkins, and "Light Years" by Gary Kinder. "Communion" has been on *The New York Times* best seller list for 16 weeks.

All three tell of personal encounters with aliens, reaching beyond the last great period of UFO enthusiasm in the 1950s, said David M. Jacobs, author of "The U.F.O. Controversy in America" and a historian at Temple University in Philadelphia.

In the 1950s UFO sightings were in vogue. Now, he said, the aliens

themselves are taken as fact and attention has turned to the human experience of encounters with them. Indeed, the hottest topic among UFO enthusiasts is what they describe as the federal government's experience with aliens, especially the "Roswell Incident," one of the oldest reported UFO episodes.

Timothy Good, a British UFO researcher, and a group of UFO investigators in the United States say they have documentary evidence that the government hid its knowledge of a "flying saucer" crash in 1947 near Roswell, New Mexico. The accusation is con-

tained in Mr. Good's book, "Above Top Secret: The Worldwide U.F.O. Cover-Up," to be published in Britain in July.

The U.S. government has declared that the 1947 incident was nothing more than the sighting of a weather balloon. But the UFO researchers say a newly discovered document, dated Nov. 18, 1952, proves that explanation false. The document, purportedly a top-secret briefing paper for President-elect Eisenhower, discusses a secret team of a dozen experts known as Majestic-12, or MJ-12, that was established by President Harry S. Truman on Sept. 24, 1947, to investigate the remains of the spacecraft and its crew.

"It appears to be genuine," said William L. Moore, who wrote a book about the incident. Mr. Moore investigated the document for more than two years after a colleague received it anonymously in the mail. "There's nothing we've

been able to discover that shows it's a fraud," he said.

"Nonsense," said Philip J. Klass, a leading UFO debunker and chairman of the UFO subcommittee of the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal, a group of scientists that publishes "The Skeptical Inquirer." Mr. Klass said he had seen the document and considered it "an outright hoax."

It describes the discovery of "four small human-like beings" who had ejected before their craft crashed. By the time they were discovered, however, a week after the crash, "all four were dead and badly decomposed due to action by predators and exposure to the elements," according to the report.

By November 1947, the document said, a federal team of scientists had concluded "that although these creatures are human-like in appearance, the biological and evolutionary processes responsible for

their development has been quite different from those observed or postulated in *Homo sapiens*."

Stanton T. Friedman, a nuclear physicist in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada, is investigating the document with Mr. Moore and lectures widely on UFOs. He said the reason for the 40-year cover-up of the New Mexico incident is that "no government wants people to have their allegiance to the planet rather than themselves."

Frederik Pohl, a science fiction writer, said belief in UFOs is flourishing now because the nation's political leaders are seen as floundering.

"We're told by our leadership to be resolute against terrorism, yet they make deals," he said. "We're told 'star wars' is the future, but no one other than Ronald Reagan believes it. People have lost trust in reality and they're looking for something else."

WHITBY GAZETTE, YORKS

JULY 3 1987

ENGLAND

## Hotline for UFO reports

I hear that the Yorkshire UFO Network, in association with independent UFO researchers in Lancashire and Derbyshire have introduced 24 hour UFO hotline ansaphone service.

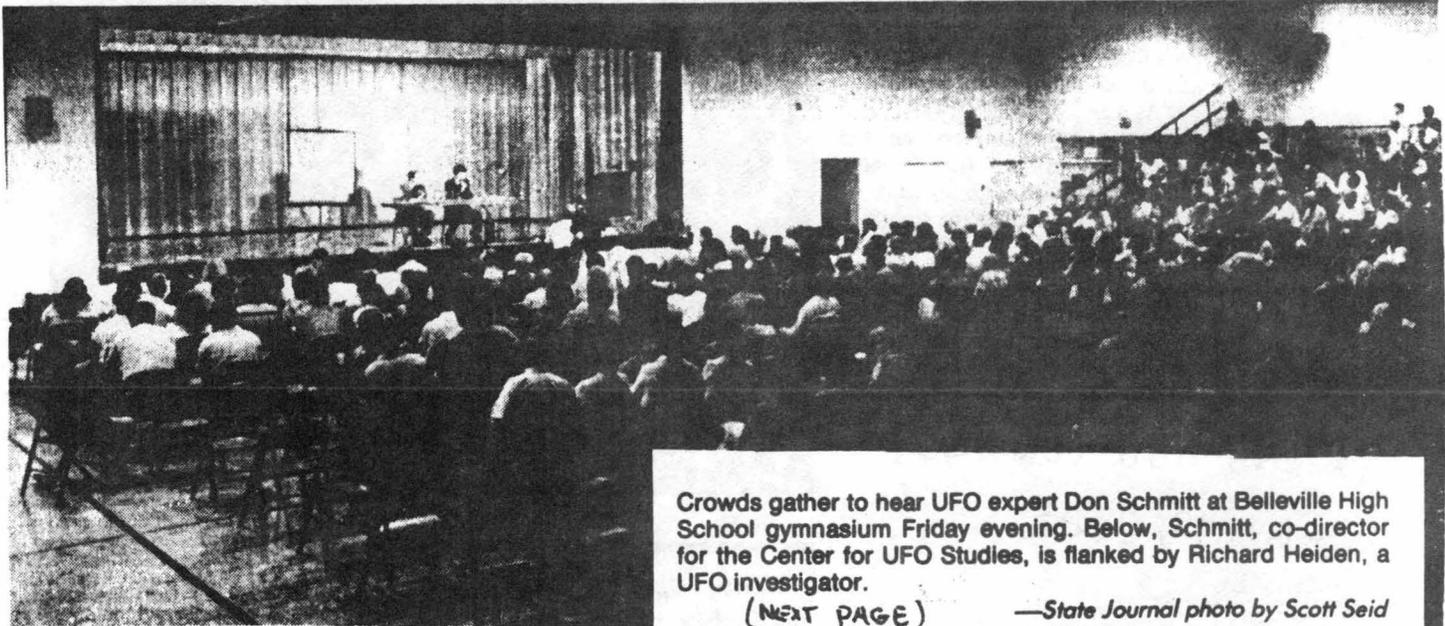
If at any time, you have observed what you believe to be an unidentified flying object (UFO), no matter where, then the 24 hour UFO hotline is waiting to hear from you.

The hotline will be operated by UFO researchers from Yorkshire and Derbyshire, and between them they have a great deal of experience in researching and investigating the subject of UFO's.

Many people, for various reasons, wish no publicity when reporting the sighting of a UFO. The 24 hour UFO hotline guarantees absolute confidentiality when requested.

If you have seen a UFO, then phone the UFO hotline (0924) 444049. It will operate seven days a week and 52 weeks a year.

1381  
**Look, up in the sky...**



Crowds gather to hear UFO expert Don Schmitt at Belleville High School gymnasium Friday evening. Below, Schmitt, co-director for the Center for UFO Studies, is flanked by Richard Heiden, a UFO investigator.

(NEXT PAGE)

—State Journal photo by Scott Seid

## Belleville UFO sightings get experts' verification

By Marv Balousek

Regional reporter

**B**ELLEVILLE — If any extra-terrestrial aliens were lurking among about 300 humans Friday night in the high school gym here, the aliens must have been satisfied that their secrets are safe.

Two investigators from the J. Allen Hynek Center for UFO Studies in Chicago said flashing, colored lights and cigar-shaped objects sighted earlier this year by Belleville residents were unidentified flying objects.

But the investigators offered few other answers to explain the phenomena.

"The Center for UFO Studies has officially classified the Belleville sightings as genuine UFO sightings," said Don Schmitt, co-director of the center.

The first sighting came the night of Jan. 15-16, when Belleville police Officer Glen Kazmar and other police officers saw three flashing lights between 8:30 p.m. and 3 a.m. The object also showed up on radar from an airplane-tracking station in Aurora, Ill.

Another sighting was reported March 6, when Harvey Funseth and several other people saw several cigar-shaped objects about 5:30 p.m.

Schmitt said he checked star patterns, airplane traffic and National Guard activity in attempts to explain the Kazmar sighting.

"We checked with Goodyear blimp," he said. "We checked with the National Weather Service. . . . There's nothing we have that would be up there for eight hours without having to come down and refuel."

But Schmitt and Richard Heiden, another center investigator, said just because the Belleville sightings were UFOs doesn't mean they're from another planet.

"There's no way we can say they're from here, they're from there, they have this particular purpose in mind," Schmitt said.

Funseth, 50, who is a state highway surveyor, said he and a companion, Fred Gochbauer, were coming home from work when they saw the large cigar-shaped object in the sky with three smaller objects trailing it.

"It's very vivid in my mind," he said. "It was so close and so big. There wasn't any sound at all."

Schmitt also said he has documents that indicate the government confiscated a crashed UFO in 1947 near Roswell Air Force Base in New Mexico and found the remains of several alien life forms.

He said the documents were given anonymously to a Los Angeles television producer.

Schmitt said the documents discuss pursuit of disc-shaped craft during the late 1940s and, the documents say "it is virtually certain these craft do not originate in any country on earth."

Schmitt said he wants an explanation from the government on the validity of the documents and whether this information has been withheld from the public for 40 years.

LOOK  
UP  
CON'T

Heiden presented a slide show on the history of UFO sightings nationally and in Wisconsin. Afterward, he tried to answer questions about UFOs.

Those attending the meeting asked whether the Belleville UFOs had friendly occupants, if they planned to install something in the area like a communications beacon and if aliens have beards.

"As a general rule, UFOs tend to stay out of cities and frequent the more rural areas," Heiden said, adding that most sightings are at night and the number of sightings peaks in July.

He said it's common for one area to have several sightings



TX-DAS HOUSTON POST  
JULY 17, 1987

### The sighting

In Bay City last week, three cops and a number of townspeople are sure they saw a UFO.

Described as looking like a flying Astrodome, the UFO left several folks, including lawman **Mike Baker**, trying to figure out where it came from.

Naturally, the folks at KIOX radio — a station owned by former Channel 11 investigative reporter **Judd McIlvain** — figured it was some kind of political conspiracy.

"I thought it might have been an advance publicity stunt by the attorney general," said KIOX news director **Judy Myers**. "It was done on the day before **Jim Mattox** came to town (Friday). You remember Friday was the day that he all but announced that he was running for governor. We're trying to get Judd to take a look at it."

Both Judy and Mike sounded sober when we talked to them.

*'My opinion is it's probably some corporation or the government ... I don't believe in outer space.'*

**— Harvey Funseth, who reported a sighting**

within a short period of time.

"If they're from another planet, I think they may want to scout around for awhile," he said.

Heiden said all encounters with aliens haven't been friendly, with some abductions and genetic experiments reported. He said 3,000 UFO sightings involved craft occupants, and the descriptions are remarkably similar — wide-set eyes, oversized heads and short, spindly bodies.

One man, who refused to give his name, said people who see UFOs are reluctant to tell anyone because people think they're crazy. The man said he watched a flying saucer for a half-hour 40 years ago in northern Wisconsin.

"For 10 years, I kept my mouth shut," he said. "And for the next 30 years, I told only a very few people."

Funseth said the UFO center did a thorough job investigating his sighting. But he said he doubts the cigar-shaped objects were of extraterrestrial origin.

"My opinion is it's probably some corporation or the government," he said. "I don't believe in outer space."

Admission to the meeting was \$2 for adults and \$1 for students. The money goes to the UFO Center. Magazines about UFOs were sold at the entrance to the gym.

RADIO & RECORDS WEEKLY JUNE 12 1987

### First Flying Saucer Report

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24** — 40th anniversary of the first of the modern day UFO reports (1947) Pilot **Kenneth Arnold** reported seeing nine crescent-shaped aircraft going 1700mph near Mount Rainier, Washington. Arnold said the UFOs — which he thought might be top secret US aircraft — were flying an up-and-down trajectory, like a saucer skipping across water. A newspaper reporter dubbed the UFOs "flying saucers," despite their crescent shape.

# Space aliens are among us

## UFOs — WHAT

ALIEN visitors sound a common theme of love and peace, the humans they've contacted say. Could they be messengers from God, as one leading theologian and UFO expert believes? In the conclusion of a three-part GLOBE probe, we look at possible reasons behind reported alien visits to Earth.

gian and UFO expert believes? In the conclusion of a three-part GLOBE probe, we look at possible reasons behind reported alien visits to Earth.

**E**XTRATERRESTRIAL visitors to our planet could be messengers from God, says a theology professor who has interviewed dozens of people who say they've been contacted by the space aliens.

"I don't know where the UFOs come from," says the Rev. Theodore Peters, "but I think God is using the aliens to communicate with us — to remind us of His message of love and peace.

"That seems to be the recurrent theme told to me by people who have been contacted by them," adds the ordained Lutheran minister and associate professor at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley, California.

**P**ETERS declares: "UFOs have a religious quality about them.

"They have the power to make us ask questions about the ultimate meaning of life. They appear in our skies as sparkling symbols of the future of our own technology and dazzle our imaginations with images of what we could become — if we can avoid destroying ourselves.

"Contactees report receiving messages from space aliens about disarmament, peace, love, brotherhood and salvation.

"That's God's message — and no matter who

brings it to us, the effect is the same."

Among the contactees the minister has interviewed is Charles Hickson, of Pascagoula, Mississippi. He and a friend, Calvin Parker, say they were abducted by aliens while on a fishing trip.

Hickson says that while he and his fellow angler were in their boat, a brightly lit UFO appeared and hovered overhead. Then, three 5ft.-tall creatures floated out of the vehicle and came toward them.

They had pincer-like claws for hands, wrink-



**UFO expert Bryce Bond says aliens are here to take care of us**

led, light gray skin, pointed ears and slits for mouths, he says.

The two fishermen were immobilized, taken aboard the craft and subjected to medical probes, Hickson relates.

"Something like an eye came out of the wall toward me and stopped at my face," the man told

Peters in one of several interviews.

"The eye was about the size of a football and wasn't attached to anything," Hickson said. "It just hung there.



**Calvin Parker (right) points at photographers after reporting that he & Charles Hickson (above) were abducted during a fishing trip and given a medical exam aboard a UFO**



"It went down the front of my body as if it were taking pictures or something. It was definitely some sort of examination."

**S**AYS the minister: "I was able to interview Hickson shortly after the incident. The man told me he now believes there's life on other worlds — and that God's universe is a lot bigger than he ever thought."

In another famous abduction, Peters recounts the story of U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Charles Moody, who discovered he had "lost" about 20 minutes after spotting a UFO.

Eventually, he recalled a sequence of events in which a 50ft.-long spaceship dropped out of the New Mexico sky near Alamogordo and he was taken aboard.

The extraterrestrials told him they were considering full contact between their civilization and Earth — because they were disturbed by the possibility of a nuclear

An eye the size of a football came out of the wall and examined me from top to bottom

war between the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

In another interview, Sandy Larson of Fargo, North Dakota, told the minister about being in a car with her daughter and the girl's boyfriend when they spotted glowing objects in the night sky.

When the frightened

trio stopped at a nearby restaurant to report the incident to police, they realized 60 minutes of their lives had vanished.

Under hypnosis, the woman recalled her contact with a mummy-like creature completely wrapped in what appeared to be brown vinyl, which had eyes that "could control my brain."

During a medical examination, the creature cured her sinus condition by inserting an instrument in her nose, she said.

Weeks after the abduction and examination, the creatures reappeared in

CONT  
NEXT  
PAGE

— last in a gripping GLOBE series —

# THEY ARE & WHY THEY ARE HERE

her bedroom and took her back aboard the UFO for a questioning session, Peters says.

"There have been at least 60,000 reported UFO sightings and 300 cases in which humans have said they had personal contact with extraterrestrials," he adds. "They should be taken

seriously — because many of the reports come from trained people like pilots and police officers.

"These sightings and contact reports have common themes — that we should stop our rush to nuclear destruction, that we should love one another and live in peace.

"God is not necessarily sending his angels to us disguised as aliens — but if He is using extraterrestrials as messengers, it's an excellent way of telling us that what we have on Earth is not all there is to the universe."

**I**NTERNATIONALLY recognized UFO expert Bryce Bond adds: "We're not talking about 'lights in the sky' any more.

"We're talking about space aliens who are actually visiting Earth and making contacts with human beings."

The alien visitors are so intelligent, they make humans "look like children in a sandbox," Bond says.

## No probe on UFO jet drama

AN INCIDENT involving a UFO and a jumbo jet is not to be investigated, British Airways confirmed yesterday.



"They're here to take care of us — like parents do their own children," he adds. "A catastrophe on Earth could adversely affect the entire solar system — and they want to save the solar system, keep it in balance with the rest of the galaxy."

— JOHN BLACKBURN  
and KEN HARRELL



Rev. Theodore Peters examines model of UFO. "God is using aliens to communicate with us," he says

NEWS ON SUNDAY LONDON  
JUN 28 1987

The no-probe decision follows a report that a BA airliner was forced by a UFO to take diversionary action over Russia.

The incident, described in a letter to The Times by the flight's first officer, Anthony Colin, happened as the BA jumbo flew from Heathrow to Bangkok two months ago.

All five crew members, described in The Times as "seasoned, sceptical professionals", were baffled by the UFO with twinkling lights.

Mr Colin, crew spokesman, wrote: "It was definitely not an aircraft. None of us had ever seen anything like it before."

Russian air traffic control reported no other aircraft in the area at the time.

# SATURDAY PEOPLE

TRAPPED in the farmhouse were seven rational, but frightened people. Around them, in the twilight sky over Edgworth, an strange craft hovered menacingly.

Suddenly the huge, brilliant object, estimated by witnesses to be 200 feet in diameter, zipped over the horizon — and, within hours, Leigh's Steve Balon, the region's UFO detective, was on the scene.

In a week when one highly-respected newspaper reported allegations that the US Government are covering up the discovery of a crashed UFO containing four dead aliens, it was very apt to drive down to Woodlands Avenue, Pennington, to talk to the North-west investigator for DIGAP — The Direct Investigation Group on Aerial Phenomena.

And, after 20 years watching, waiting, and hoping for tangible evidence of life beyond the stars, patiently expecting that close encounter, does Steve Balon still believe?

"Oh, yes," he said vigorously. "There are hard irrefutable facts. People reject the idea of UFOs, or life on another planet, because of fear.

"Take the Edgworth case, in 1985. The UFO was seen to fly off in the direction of Delph. I went along to a quarry over there and saw, with my own eyes, burn marks on the ground.

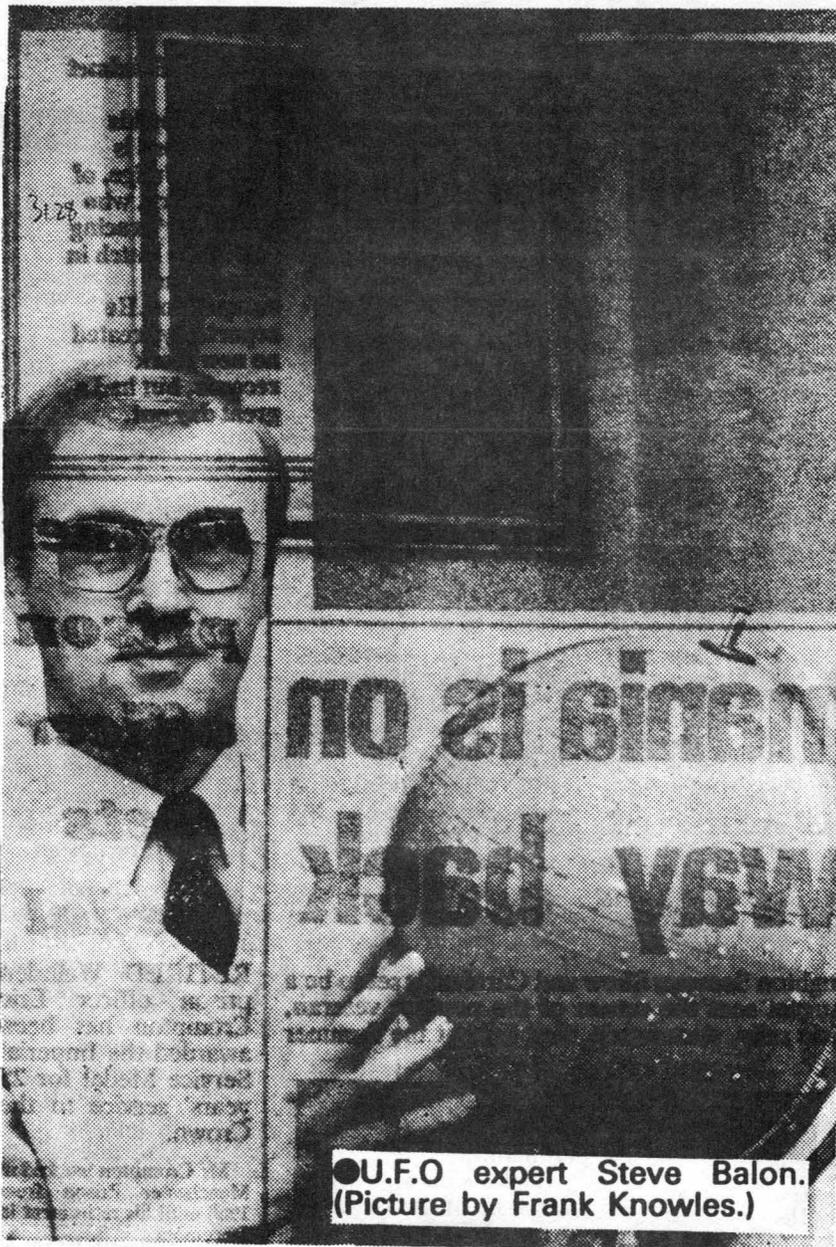
"I talked with nine witnesses who saw the craft."

There are other cases. Nine years ago Bolton woman Shelley Barnes claimed she was abducted near the Rumworth area by

## John Hodson talks to the area's main UFO detective

an alien craft. "We took her to a hypnotist who specialises in regression," said Steve. "Shelley told us she was taken on board the craft and was held in a dome-shaped room, surrounded by alien beings. They did not touch her and later let her free.

"Perhaps more sinister, several days after the incident, she was visited at home by two men dressed in black (this is not uncommon in these cases), who tried to frighten her into not talking to anyone about her experience. Who these men were no-one knows."



●U.F.O expert Steve Balon. (Picture by Frank Knowles.)

Steve has been interested in the UFO phenomenon since, as a 13-year-old, he took up astronomy and spotted what he is convinced was a formation of alien craft in the night skies. His home is filled with books, magazines and

videos on the subject — serious thesis lining up alongside tomes on Dr. Who and Star Trek. Steve was, and still is, an ardent fan of the good Doctor and Mr Spock.

But he does not, he insists, get science fiction mixed up with science fact.

Although a fan of the

more lurid Hollywood epics on the subject, he says the film industry has much to answer for after giving people a pre-conceived idea of aliens as bug-eyed monsters.

"Who knows what they are, or where they come from? I am convinced that there are positive and negative forces throughout the universe. But why should they come to destroy us?"

### Theory

"They could be beings of pure energy, or in a different dimension to ours; they could be with us all the time. A theory I do subscribe to is that this type of phenomena is experienced more often than not by people who are psychic."

One of the wierdest cases Steve has investigated over the years was the incident of THE SILVER-SUITED

FIGURE. Nine years ago, four young men driving through Rainford, Merseyside, were confronted by the figure of a seven-foot tall silver-suited being.

It had short, claw-like hands, a dome-shaped head and on its chest three red lights flickered on and off.

"Needless to say," said Steve, "they certainly got out of the area quickly."

### Atomic

Shortly afterwards a Mr Ken Edwards was driving around the Risley atomic energy complex, when a similar figure stopped him in his tracks.

"It shone a beam of light at him which forced him back into his seat. Later he could not account for 30 minutes. But he does remember the figure walking through the fence and towards the complex.

"Ken died of cancer four years later — it has to be asked was this as a result of contact with an alien being? And more and more of today's sightings are of beings, as opposed to craft.

"No power on earth can produce the type of sightings that people are reporting all over the world. They have to come from beyond this planet and I am convinced the authorities are keeping the true facts from us."

### Target

Bolton itself is a UFO target, claims Steve, and has been so for a number of years, particularly in the Rivington area.

There is the famed Bolton Triangle. Connect Turton Tower, Rivington Moor and Anglezarke Moor on a map and within that area there have been more UFO sightings than probably anywhere else in the North-west.

"The theory is that along those lines connecting the three areas are the mysterious ley lines, along which are ancient burial grounds, emitting electrical forces. I don't know why, but they seem to attract UFO phenomena.

CAN'T NEXT PAGE

STEVES  
CONT

"There have been a lot of reports. But a lot more people don't want to talk about their experiences, for fear of ridicule, or just plain fear. Keeping this sort of thing bottled up can drive you insane."

Appeal

"I urge anyone who has had an unexplained experience to write to me at 10, Woodlands Avenue, Leigh. All information will be treated in the strictest confidence."

Steve, himself, has never had a close encounter of the third kind — actual contact with an alien — but he lives in hope. "If I was invited on board an alien craft, I don't know what I'd do. I hope that I would have the courage to go."

12E-8 INTERNATIONAL HERALD  
TRIBUNE JUNE 17 1987

# UFOs Are Back, at Least in U.S. Popular Culture

By William J. Broad  
*New York Times Service*

NEW YORK — The aliens are here again, at least in terms of popular culture, if not fact.

Three books about alien visits are selling briskly in the United States. One of them has topped the nonfiction best seller list for weeks. Clubs, newsletters, movies, and lectures about unidentified flying objects are generating revenues at a pace exceeded only in the 1950s, during the first wave of UFO sightings.

Some say that for 40 years the U.S. government has harbored physical evidence of an earthly encounter with extraterrestrial crea-

tures, including their dead bodies and damaged spacecraft.

That startling report, dismissed by skeptics and government officials as a laughable hoax, is contained in what are purportedly top-secret government papers dating from the days of President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Why the fascination with aliens, despite repeated failures over the decades to document their earthly arrival?

In interviews, psychologists, historians, philosophers and writers of science fiction said that belief in alien encounters was rooted in the need for secular messiahs, and the search for explanations for the troubles on earth.

"The urge to investigate and believe in this stuff is almost religious," said Ben Bova, former editor of *Omni* magazine and a writer of science fiction. "We used to have gods. Now we want to feel we're not alone, watched over by protective forces far beyond us."

Others, often sober, respectable scientists who have studied UFO reports for years, said the skeptics were missing the biggest story of the age.

"People who haven't been paying attention to this stuff are in for a shock," said Bruce Maccabee, a full-time Navy physicist in Washington, D.C., and a part-time UFO researcher. "Some sort of things

have been flying around for decades, and they aren't ours."

The current flurry of interest in UFOs is led by new books: "Communion" by Whitley Strieber, "Intruders" by Budd Hopkins, and "Light Years" by Gary Kinder. "Communion" has been on *The New York Times* best seller list for 16 weeks.

IN-035 INDIANAPOLIS STAR  
JUNE 7 1987

# UFO grabs Hoosier — believe it or not

On June 30, 1983, in a wooded area east of Indianapolis, a craft from outer space landed and then abducted "Kathie Davis."

Kathie (not her real name) still lives in the city. She's a beautician. She doesn't want her real name used.

Was she really abducted? She thinks so, and so does author Budd Hopkins. The incident is the jumping off point for Hopkins' book, *Intruders*.

Whether or not readers believe the book is their own concern, Hopkins presents his evidence — all in the form of testimony from abductees, much of which is delivered under hypnosis — in a quasi-scientific style he feels will give the book a ring of authority. Unfortunately, what it does is give the book a ring of boredom. The personal narratives are compelling and interesting. But when the major points are repeated, then amplified, repeated, amplified again, and repeated a third time, the reading gets trying.

But to get back to Hopkins' thesis, he describes Kathie's encounters with UFOs and aliens. They started when she was a child and continued into her adulthood. This continued curiosity, Hopkins eventually asserts, has to do with genetic experimentation.

Hopkins doesn't argue the existence of UFOs. He takes it as a given. He also doesn't argue whether citizens have been abducted. But he goes a step further: It is his belief that many of these abductions have been part

## Local phenomena

Title — *Intruders: The Incredible Visitation at Copley Woods*  
Author — Budd Hopkins  
Pages — 224  
Price — \$17.95  
Publisher — Random House

of an alien culture's attempt to conduct genetic experiments involving Earthling ova and sperm.

Kathie, Hopkins says, was artificially inseminated in 1977. Then, in March 1978, the developing fetus was surgically removed. Still later, the aliens returned with a human-like girl. Kathie says she knew instantly it was hers.

Hopkins offers a couple of other similar tales, although they aren't nearly as detailed as Kathie's. Some details, he writes, have been left out on purpose, awaiting independent confirmation.

The basic supposition of Hopkins' study is similar to an approach the literary detective Sherlock Holmes is said to have taken. Holmes says that when one eliminates all the probable explanations, whatever is left — no matter how improbable — must be the answer. Hopkins insists his interpretation of the evidence is this improbable-yet-true answer.

Whether the reader will agree remains to be seen.

By RICH GOTSHALL

Gotshall is a copy editor for *The Star*.

CONT NEXT PAGE

**UFO: Aliens Make Comeback in U.S. Popular Culture**

All three tell of personal encounters with aliens, reaching beyond the last great period of UFO enthusiasm in the 1950s, said David M. Jacobs, author of "The U.F.O. Controversy in America" and a historian at Temple University in Philadelphia.

In the 1950s UFO sightings were in vogue. Now, he said, the aliens

themselves are taken as fact and attention has turned to the human experience of encounters with them. Indeed, the hottest topic among UFO enthusiasts is what they describe as the federal government's experience with aliens, especially the "Roswell Incident," one of the oldest reported UFO episodes.

Timothy Good, a British UFO researcher, and a group of UFO investigators in the United States say they have documentary evidence that the government hid its knowledge of a "flying saucer" crash in 1947 near Roswell, New Mexico. The accusation is con-

(Cont'd from Page 1)  
tained in Mr. Good's book, "Above Top Secret: The Worldwide U.F.O. Cover-Up," to be published in Britain in July.

The U.S. government has declared that the 1947 incident was nothing more than the sighting of a weather balloon. But the UFO researchers say a newly discovered document, dated Nov. 18, 1952, proves that explanation false. The document, purportedly a top-secret briefing paper for President-elect Eisenhower, discusses a secret team of a dozen experts known as Majestic-12, or MJ-12, that was established by President Harry L. Truman on Sept. 24, 1947, to investigate the remains of the spacecraft and its crew.

"It appears to be genuine," said William L. Moore, who wrote a book about the incident. Mr. Moore investigated the document for more than two years after a colleague received it anonymously in the mail. "There's nothing we've

been able to discover that shows it's a fraud," he said.

"Nonsense," said Philip J. Klass, a leading UFO debunker and chairman of the UFO subcommittee of the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal, a group of scientists that publishes "The Skeptical Inquirer." Mr. Klass said he had seen the document and considered it "an outright hoax."

It describes the discovery of "four small human-like beings" who had ejected before their craft crashed. By the time they were discovered, however, a week after the crash, "all four were dead and badly decomposed due to action by predators and exposure to the elements," according to the report.

By November 1947, the document said, a federal team of scientists had concluded "that although these creatures are human-like in appearance, the biological and evolutionary processes responsible for

their development has been quite different from those observed or postulated in Homo sapiens."

Stanton T. Friedman, a nuclear physicist in Frederickton, New Brunswick, Canada, is investigating the document with Mr. Moore and lectures widely on UFOs. He said the reason for the 40-year cover-up of the New Mexico incident is that "no government wants people to have their allegiance to the planet rather than themselves."

Frederik Pohl, a science fiction writer, said belief in UFOs is flourishing now because the nation's political leaders are seen as floundering.

"We're told by our leadership to be resolute against terrorism, yet they make deals," he said. "We're told 'star wars' is the future, but no one other than Ronald Reagan believes it. People have lost trust in reality and they're looking for something else." //

B4 — Gazette Telegraph Monday, May 25, 1987

# Multicolored lights spark UFO sightings in Glenwood Springs

ASPEN (AP) — Earthlings might not be the only tourists visiting western Colorado this summer, UFO aficionados said Friday.

Bright, multicolored lights that appeared on the horizon northwest of Glenwood Springs last week prompted about 25 people to gather Friday in Aspen for a talk by Bruce Maccabee, a research physicist with the Navy and chairman of the Fund for UFO Research.

"We have to rethink our position in the universe," said Maccabee, who has studied UFO sightings for about 20 years.

The colored dots of light spotted between 1 a.m. and 2 a.m. EST high above the Glenwood Springs Mall last Monday and Wednesday have not reappeared, said Lt. Don Williams of the Glenwood Springs Police Department.

"It's been cloudy every single night since then," Williams said. "I know, because I've been standing out there, in the buff sometimes, looking."

A military spokesman said last week it was unlikely the lights were reflections from satellites, and astronomers ruled out the aurora borealis, or northern lights.

"About half the town," including several police officers, saw the

dots of light, Williams said, adding that he is "neither a believer or a disbeliever" in UFOs.

"I don't think we should be vain enough to think we are the only people in our universe," he said. "But one of those little creatures is going to have to come on down and talk to me and wave its finger at me and levitate to convince me for good."

Maccabee said that's not impossible.

Visitors from other parts of the universe have become increasingly daring over the past four decades, even abducting some humans, he said.

"It seems there are some sort of biological experiments going on on the people of this planet, carried out by someone else," Maccabee said.

He said a recent public opinion poll showed two-thirds of Americans believe that UFOs might or probably exist.

Remaining skeptics will be convinced, Maccabee said, when scientists from 12 countries gather at the International Symposium on Unidentified Aerial Phenomenon in Washington, D.C., June 26-28. They will present evidence that the U.S. government has orchestrated a cover-up of UFO sightings, he said.

# 'Urge to Investigate and Believe' Sparks New Interest in U.F.O.'s

By WILLIAM J. BROAD

**T**HE ALIENS are here again, at least in terms of popular culture, if not fact.

Three books about alien visits are selling briskly; one of them has topped the nonfiction best seller list for weeks. Clubs, newsletters, movies, and lectures about unidentified flying objects are generating revenues at a pace exceeded only in the 1950's, during the first wave of U.F.O. sightings.

Enthusiasts are now even charging that for 40 years the Federal Government has harbored evidence of an encounter with extraterrestrial creatures, including their lifeless bodies and damaged spacecraft. That star-

ling report, dismissed by skeptics and Government officials as laughable, is contained in what purport to be top-secret Government papers from the Eisenhower era.

Why the fascination with aliens, despite repeated failures over the decades to document their appearance?

In interviews, psychologists, historians, philosophers and writers of science fiction said belief in alien encounters was rooted in such things as the need for secular messiahs and the search for explanations for terrestrial troubles.

"The urge to investigate and believe in this stuff is almost religious," said Ben Bova, former editor of Omni magazine and a writer of science fiction. "We used to have gods. Now we

want to feel we're not alone, watched over by protective forces."

But others, often sober, respectable scientists, said the skeptics were missing the biggest story of the age.

"People who haven't been paying attention to this stuff are in for a shock," said Dr. Bruce Maccabee, a full-time Navy physicist in Washington, D.C., and a part-time U.F.O. researcher. "Some sort of things have been flying around for decades, and they aren't ours."

The current U.F.O. flurry is led by new books: "Communion" by Whitley Strieber (Morrow), "Intruders" by Budd Hopkins (Random House), and "Light Years" by Gary Kinder (Atlantic Monthly Press). "Commun-

Continued on Page C3

COPY ONE OF

~~SECRET~~

On 24 June, 1947, a civilian pilot flying over the Cascade Mountains in the State of Washington observed nine flying disc-shaped aircraft traveling in formation at a high rate of speed. Although this was not the first known sighting of such objects, it was the first to gain widespread attention.

On 07 July, 1947, a secret operation was begun to assure recovery of the wreckage of this object for scientific study. During the course of this operation, aerial reconnaissance discovered that four small human-like beings had apparently ejected from the craft at some point before it exploded. These had fallen to earth about two miles east of the wreckage site. All four were dead and badly decomposed due to action.

New interest in UFO's has been aroused by a document purporting to describe a team established by President Truman, below, to investigate the crash of an alien spacecraft.

Source: William I. Moore

ion" has been on The New York Times best seller list for 16 weeks.

All three tell of personal encounters with aliens. In this they differ from the last great period of U.F.O. enthusiasm, in the 1950's, said David M. Jacobs, author of "The U.F.O. Controversy in America" and a historian at Temple University in Philadelphia. In the 1950's U.F.O. sightings were in vogue. Now, he said, we are in a "new era" in which aliens are taken as fact and attention had turned to "people's experiences" with them.

Indeed, the hottest topic among U.F.O. enthusiasts is what they describe as the Federal Government's experience with aliens, especially the "Roswell Incident," one of the oldest U.F.O. episodes on the books. Timothy Good, a British U.F.O. researcher, and a group of U.F.O. investigators in the United States say they have documentary evidence that the Government hid its knowledge that a "flying saucer" crashed in 1947 near Roswell, N. M., killing its crew of extraterrestrial creatures. The charges are contained in Mr. Good's book "Above Top Secret: The Worldwide U.F.O. Cover-Up," to be published in Britain in July.



The New York Times

# INVESTIGATE AND BELIEVE CON'T

## The Roswell Incident

The Government's position is that the 1947 incident was nothing more than the sighting of a weather balloon. But the U.F.O. researchers cite a newly discovered document, dated Nov. 18, 1952, purportedly a top-secret briefing paper for President-elect Dwight D. Eisenhower. It discusses a secret Federal team known as Majestic-12, or MJ-12, established by President Truman on Sept. 24, 1947 to investigate the of the spacecraft and its crew.

"It appears to be genuine," said William L. Moore, who wrote a book about the incident and who investigated the document for more than two years after a colleague received it anonymously in the mail. But he said there is nothing in the records "that shows it's a fraud."

"Nonsense," replied Philip J. Klass, a leading U.F.O. debunker and

chairman of the U.F.O. subcommittee of the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal, a respected group of scientists. Mr. Klass said he had seen the document and considered it "an outright hoax."

The document purportedly recounts a secret briefing to President-elect Eisenhower by Rear Adm. Roscoe H. Hillenkoetter, the first director of the Central Intelligence Agency,

## Experts say belief is rooted in part in the need to explain earthly problems.

who is now dead. According to the document, Admiral Hillenkoetter was a member of Majestic-12. It begins with a chronology of crash near Roswell.

"On 07 July, 1947," it says, "a secret operation was begun to assure

recovery of the wreckage of this object for scientific study. During the course of this operation, aerial reconnaissance discovered that four small human-like beings had apparently ejected from the craft at some point before it exploded. These had fallen to earth about two miles east of the wreckage site. All four were dead and badly decomposed due to action by predators and exposure to the elements during the approximately one week time period which had elapsed before their discovery."

"A special scientific team took charge of removing these bodies for study. The wreckage of the craft was also removed to several different locations. Civilian and military witnesses in the area were debriefed, and news reporters were given the effective cover story that the object had been a misguided weather research balloon."

By November 1947, the briefing continued, a Federal team of scientists had concluded "that although these creatures are human-like in appearance, the biological and evolutionary processes responsible for their development has been quite dif-

ferent from those observed or postulated in homo-sapiens."

Stanton T. Friedman, a nuclear physicist in Fredericton, New Brunswick, Canada, who is investigating the document with Mr. Moore and who lectures widely on U.F.O.'s, acknowledged that interest it generated would raise lecture fees but said their goal was to get at the truth.

"We're dealing with something of extraordinary importance," he said.

"What this means is that we humans are not the big shots we think we are." He said the landing was concealed because "no Government wants people to have their allegiance to the planet rather than themselves."

Reflecting on the scope and intensity of the current flurry of interest, Jerome Clark, vice president of the J. Allen Hynek Center for U.F.O. Studies in Chicago and editor of "International U.F.O. Reporter," said: "What's interesting is that all this is happening in the absence of a sighting wave. There hasn't really been anything sighted since the 1970's. If I were paranoid, I'd say it's quiet, too quiet."

Frederik Pohl, a science fiction writer, said belief in U.F.O.'s is flourishing now because the nation's political leaders are seen as floundering. "We're told by our leadership to be resolute against terrorism, yet they make deals," he said. "We're told 'Star Wars' is the future, but no one other than Ronald Reagan believes it. People have lost trust in reality and they're looking for something else."

Michael Wertheimer, a psychologist at the University of Colorado who has participated in studies that debunked U.F.O. reports, agreed that feelings of helplessness tended to reinforce the urge to believe in the extraterrestrial.

Paul Kurtz, a philosopher at the State University of New York at Buffalo and chairman of the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal, said the current U.F.O. wave was "part of a bizarre trend in which there is no sense of standards of evidence."

Dr. Maccabee, the Navy physicist, conceded that skeptics often made valid points. "But the simple fact is that there are unexplained sightings," he added. "Over the past 40 years there have been 100,000 sightings, with 10 to 20 percent that are hard to explain."

In the case of the purported Eisenhower documents, he said, "maybe somebody's been clever, but I think there's a good chance they are authentic."

It "traveled with great speed and stopped suddenly in the sky," the report said.

The document continued: "The three first thought the object was a helicopter. however, after observing the strange aerial maneuvers (stop and go), they felt a helicopter couldn't have performed such skills."

## UFOs Cited In Pentagon Documents

Reuters

WASHINGTON — A group that monitors reports of UFOs has made public Pentagon documents that report sightings of unidentified flying objects by soldiers at military bases in the United States.

Dale Goudie, president of the UFO Information Service in Seattle, said Thursday that the Defense Department documents were provided to him under the Freedom of Information Act.

Mr. Goudie, an advertising consultant, suggested that the U.S. government was covering up what it knew about UFOs to avoid causing panic.

Skeptics such as Philip Klass, who has long debunked reports of UFO sightings, said this past week that documents obtained by Mr. Goudie and others are not definitive evidence that space aliens exist.

LONDON + PARIS  
JUNE 28 1987

One U.S. Air Force document, dated Sept. 9, 1980, describes a sighting of UFOs the previous month by security guards at Kirtland Air Force Base in New Mexico.

It said three guards, interviewed separately, described an "unidentified light in the air" or a "disc-shaped object" that swooped over a weapons storage area just before midnight on Aug. 8, 1980.

# War of the words over UFO sightings

*Books cite alien landings, but skeptics call them 'nonsense'*

**New York Times News Service**

NEW YORK — The aliens are here again, at least in terms of popular culture, if not fact.

Three books about alien visits are selling briskly. Clubs, newsletters, movies and lectures about unidentified flying objects are generating revenues at a pace exceeded only in the 1950s, during the first wave of UFO sightings.

Enthusiasts are now even charging that for 40 years the federal government has harbored physical evidence of an earthly encounter with extraterrestrial creatures, including their lifeless bodies and damaged spacecraft.

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the "Roswell Incident," one of the oldest UFO episodes on the books.

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"It appears to be genuine," said William Moore, who wrote a book about the incident after a colleague received it anonymously in the mail. Having looked at records from that time, he said, "There's nothing we've been able to discover that shows it's a fraud."

"Nonsense," replied Philip Klass, a leading UFO debunker and chairman of the UFO subcommittee of the Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal. He said he had seen the document and considered it "an outright hoax."

The document, several pages

long and marked "copy one of one, eyes only," purportedly recounts a secret briefing to Eisenhower by Rear Admiral Roscoe Hillenkoetter, the first director of the CIA, who is now dead. According to the document, Hillenkoetter was a member of Majestic-12. The briefing begins with a chronology of a crash near Roswell.

"On 07 July, 1947," it says, "a secret operation was begun to assure recovery of the wreckage of this object for scientific study. During the course of this operation, aerial reconnaissance discovered that four small human-like beings had apparently ejected from the craft at some point before it exploded. These had fallen to Earth about two miles east of the wreckage site. All four were dead and badly decomposed due to action by predators and exposure to the elements during the approximately one week time period which had elapsed before their discovery."

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## Ocala area residents report UFO sightings

OCALA — An unidentified flying object distinguished by a maze of lights hovered at about treetop level before disappearing from view in a matter of seconds, police said Thursday.

The Marion County Sheriff's Office received four calls from residents in the Citra area, about 15 miles north of Ocala, late Wednesday about a UFO. A deputy also saw the object, said department spokesman Ken Ergle.

## FL-D32 ORLANDO SENTINEL

JUNE 19 1987

"He saw it hovering over the top of the trees, like it was following the railroad tracks," he said. "It had a red light on one side, a green light on the other, a white light in the front and a white light beaming down with sparks coming out of the back."

Nearby military installations were contacted but all reported they did not have aircraft in the area.

Police have discontinued the investigation and simply classified the sighting as a UFO.

# Sky's not limit for Highland UFO watchers

Captain's Log, Stardate 1987.51. The Enterprise is in orbit around planet Earth seeking signs of intelligent life. So far, our mission is a failure but it appears we are not alone in space.

SPOCK: Captain, our sensors indicate an alien vessel approaching.

KIRK: Can you identify it, Spock?

SPOCK: Negative, Captain. It is of a type unknown to our computers.

KIRK: Open a hailing frequency, Uhura. All stations go to yellow alert.

SULU: Does that mean you want only the Orientals to go on alert, Captain?

KIRK: Shut up, Sulu, and see if you can get the visitor on the view screen. If not, try to get "Moonlighting."

UHURA: Captain! I'm picking up a signal from the alien vessel. They want us to turn off the hailing signal. They say the hail is icing up the hood scoops and messing up the upholstery.

KIRK: Messing up the upholstery?

UHURA: Yes, sir. It seems they had the sun roof open.

Space. The final frontier. But is the crew from the starship Enter-

Phillip  
Wieland



Times staff writer

## Commentary

prise ready for a visit to Highland?

Two Highland residents recently reported seeing a UFO, perhaps a space busload of extraterrestrial tourists, their "Lake's Got It" brochures in hand, out for an afternoon drive over the town.

According to Jim Hartman, head of information for the state of Indiana for the national UFO reporting center, the two witnesses saw a cylindrical object about the size of a plane over the Lakeside section of the town at about 3:52 p.m.

The object behaved in "a bizarre manner," he said. In Highland, "bizarre" means it flew faster than George Van Til on his way to a Democratic fund-raiser, stopped and

hovered for a moment, then moved quickly in a counterclockwise swirl before vanishing.

The entire encounter of the bizarre kind lasted about 10 seconds, Hartman said. Although he is still looking into it and hoping others with UFO information will contact him, he said, "That to me is a UFO."

As information director for Indiana, Hartman, who lives in Highland, is responsible for gathering information about UFO sightings in the state and reporting them to the national center in Seattle.

"All I've ever been interested in is going out with some people and watching meteorites fall," Hartman said. "I probably saw UFO's when I was younger but I didn't pay any attention to them. I've seen things move erratically."

So has anyone who's ever driven on the Borman Expressway or stood outside a Burnham bar at 3 a.m. Erratic behavior of the extraterrestrial kind is a little rarer than that but not unknown in The Region, according to Robert Gribble, of the national center.

Gribble said the last sightings in Indiana were in 1986 and you have to

go back to the early 1970s to find more than occasional sightings of UFOs. Most of the sightings are the "lights in the sky" variety that are difficult to verify, he said, but there have been a few landings over the years.

What really concerns the people in the civilian UFO network is what they see as a deliberate attempt by the U.S. government to hide the existence of UFO activity. Call me a cockeyed patriot, but how could anybody say a government that gave us Rosemary Woods and Lt. Col. Ollie North is trying to hide something from us?

Hartman said unshredded government documents exist that show the government isn't telling us all it knows about life in Mr. (Buck) Rogers' neighborhood.

"I got more involved when I saw all these documents," he said. "The CIA (known lately as the Contra Investment Association) has been told to play down the situation. They plant people to tell us these sightings are nothing."

The reason our government is doing this is that "the information, if it is made public, would cause problems in many areas of society,"

said Gribble. "It would cause a complete revision of the overall religious system."

Gribble said the advanced technology represented by the saucer fliers would cause problems for corporations in the energy field.

I'd hate to see bridges and window ledges suddenly lined with suicidal oil and electronics CEOs, but if E.T. could somehow call a halt to the presidential campaigns of a few money-mongering TV preachers, we'd all be better off.

Although he's never seen a UFO himself, Gribble said space visitors are making isolated contact with selected individuals around the world on a regular basis. It's a slow process but it will eventually solve the CIA's problem.

"The whole attitude is changing and the government figures if it just waits, the situation will take care of itself," Gribble said. Sort of like the budget deficit.

If you haven't been contacted by alien visitors yet, you will be. Just pray it isn't "collect."

Take us out of orbit, Mr. Sulu. Ahead warp factor two.

1381

# The mystery of 'Majestic-12': Proof of UFO visit or an elaborate hoax?

## Data claims 4 'aliens' died in 1947 crash

By Martin Bailey  
The London Observer

The bodies of four aliens from a crashed flying saucer were recovered 40 years ago, according to a government "document" obtained by a British researcher recently.

A bitter debate is now likely to develop among UFO experts over the existence of a mysterious committee, code-named Majestic-12, which is supposed to have examined the aliens.

The top-secret briefing paper claims that then CIA Director Adm. Roscoe Hillenkoetter reported that "although these creatures are human-like in appearance, the biological and evolutionary processes responsible for their development has apparently been quite different from those observed or postulated in homo-sapiens."

The document, which The London Observer obtained from Timothy Good, Britain's leading UFO researcher, purports to be a briefing paper for President Eisenhower on Operation Majestic-12, also known as MJ-12. Good, in his book "Above Top Secret: The Worldwide UFO Cover-up," to be published this year, claims that MJ-12 was a committee of senior U.S. officials which investigated and then covered up news of flying saucer crashes.

UFO writer Barry Greenwood, however, has suggested that the document is just a sophisticated fraud.

"I obtained the document two months ago from a reliable American source who has close connections with the intelligence community. I am convinced of its authenticity," Good said Saturday.

"There are some things that look wrong with the White House memo, for example it is unsigned. It is just possible that it was manufactured by someone wanting to prove

the existence of MJ-12 and then inserted into Air Force Intelligence records which had recently been opened up to the public," he said. "The hoaxer could then have ordered a copy from the National Archives which would carry the official declassification stamp. MJ-12 may well have existed, but more research is needed to authenticate the documents."

The Eisenhower briefing paper, dated Nov. 18, 1952, claims that the MJ-12 committee had been formed by his predecessor, President Truman, on Sept. 24, 1947, as "a top secret research and development/intelligence operation responsible directly and only to the president of the United States."

The 12 members of the group are said to have included Hillenkoetter, Defense Secretary James Forrestal, Air Force Gen. Nathan Twining, leading U.S. atom bomb scientist Dr. Vannevar Bush, biophysicist Dr. Detlev Bronk, and astronomer Dr. Donald Menzel. All 12 are now dead, and none of them ever spoke publicly about the recovery of aliens.

The document reports that on June 24, 1947, "disc-shaped aircraft" were sighted in the United States. "Little was learned about the objects until a local rancher reported that one had crashed in a remote region of New Mexico located approximately 75 miles northwest of Roswell Army Base (now Walker Field).

"On July 7, 1947, a secret operation was begun to assure recovery of the wreckage of this object for scientific study. During the course of this operation, aerial reconnaissance discovered that four small human-like beings had apparently ejected from the craft at some point before it exploded. These had fallen to earth about two miles east of the wreckage site.

"All four were dead and badly decomposed due to action by predators and exposure to the elements during the approximately one week time which had elapsed before their discovery," the Eisenhower briefing paper claimed.

"A covert analytical effort by Gen. Twining and Dr. Bush acting on the direct orders

CONT  
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PAGE

## PROOF OF UFO CON'T

of the president resulted in a preliminary consensus (Sept. 19, 1947) that the disc was most likely a short-range reconnaissance craft . . . a similar analysis of the four dead occupants was arranged by Dr. Bronk.

"Dr. Bronk's team has suggested the term 'Extra-terrestrial Biological Entities,' or 'EBEs,' be adopted as the standard term of reference for these creatures until such time as a more definitive designation can be agreed upon.

"Implications for national security are of continuing importance in that the motives and ultimate intentions of these visitors remain completely unknown. In addition, a significant upsurge in the surveillance activity of these craft beginning in May and continuing through the autumn of this year has caused considerable concern that new developments may be imminent.

TX-D45 HOUSTON POST  
JUNE 1 1987

## UFO probe found humanoids: expert

LONDON (Reuter) — The United States held a top-secret investigation into unidentified flying objects after World War II and found the bodies of four humanoids from a crashed flying saucer, according to Britain's leading UFO expert.

The Observer newspaper Sunday quoted UFO researcher Timothy Good as saying a U.S. government committee code-named "Majestic-12" examined and then covered up news of UFO crashes in the late 1940s.

According to Good's book *Above Top Secret: The Worldwide*

*UFO Cover-Up*, to be published in July, the MJ-12 committee was set up by President Harry Truman and checked reports about unidentified aircraft sighted in the United States.

Following a report from a local farmer, the committee launched a search for a crashed UFO in a remote area in New Mexico in 1947.

They found the bodies of four humanoid creatures, Good said, quoting what he says is a briefing paper by then Central Intelligence Agency Director Roscoe Hillenkoetter for Truman's successor,

Dwight Eisenhower.

"Four small human-like beings had apparently ejected from the craft at some point before it exploded. These had fallen to earth about two miles east of the wreckage site. All four were dead and badly decomposed due to action by predators and exposure to the elements," the document said.

The Observer said it had seen the briefing paper but inquiries in several U.S. archives had failed to authenticate it, and it could be part of an elaborate hoax.

## Researchers accuse government of keeping lid on flying saucers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Researchers, trying to document that the government recognizes the existence of unidentified flying objects, believe that Washington has tried to keep UFO information under wraps.

"We've been dealing with a kind of cosmic Watergate," said UFO researcher Stanton T. Friedman at a briefing Friday on this weekend's "International Symposium on Unidentified Aerial Phenomena, 1947-1987."

Friedman is one of the scheduled participants in the weekend session at American University coinciding with

the 40th anniversary of the first reported UFO sighting on June 24, 1947.

A later incident that summer was the alleged crash in July of an alien craft outside Roswell, N.M. The so-called "UFOlogists" contend that the government retrieved the crashed object and covered up all traces of it.

Friedman said that the government has been able to keep the lid on its UFO program, which began with the so-called Majestic 12 group under the Eisenhower administration, because only a few people keep the information.

"It is for these reasons, as well as the obvious international and technological considerations and the ultimate need to avoid a public panic at all costs, that the Majestic-12 Group remains of the unanimous opinion that strictest security precautions should continue without interruption into the new administration."

Inquiries at the National Archives, the archives of Truman and Eisenhower, and the National Security Council archives have not managed to authenticate the briefing paper.

There is, however, new evidence that a group called MJ-12 did exist. This is a White House memo to Twining informing him about an "MJ-12" briefing for Eisenhower. It was declassified Jan. 12, 1987.

If the White House memorandum is genuine, this proves the existence of an MJ-12 group whose responsibility could have covered UFOs. This would then strengthen Good's view that there was a coverup.

On Saturday an Air Force spokesman denied any knowledge of MJ-12 and said that investigations into UFOs had ended in 1969.

TX-D44 HOUSTON CHRONICLE  
JUNE 1987

The only reference to the group in official government documents is a declassified July 14, 1954, letter from Robert Cutler, special assistant to the president, to Gen. Nathan Twining, with a reference to an "MJ-12" briefing.

The "Majestic" group, however, is identified in a "briefing document" on UFO research that a UFO researcher learned about when he received an unsolicited package of film copies of the documents in the mail 2½ years ago.

The researchers won't say they are certain the copies are of authentic documents, but they say they have no reason to believe they are phony.

1351

## Ray Orrock



### Alien profile

**E**VERY ONCE in a while someone will ask me, "Do you believe in UFOs?" and I always answer "Yes." (Almost always. Sometimes I'll say "Yep" or "Uh huh.")

I do believe in UFOs, if that designation is meant to stand for Unidentified Flying Objects. It would be silly *not* to believe in them. The air is full of unidentified flying objects. Just the other day something whizzed past my ear and I have no idea what it was.

What I tend to be skeptical about, though, are IFOs — *Identified* Flying Objects — particularly if they're identified as spacecraft with aliens from another planet.

There are a number of people who do not share my skepticism, however, and one of them is a man named Timothy Good, identified in a Reuters dispatch as "Britain's leading UFO expert."

Last week Mr. Good announced that, just after World War II, the bodies of four humanoids were found near a crashed flying saucer and the government covered up the story.

**I**F THAT SOUNDS familiar it may be because alien-spacecraft believers have been making the same claim, on and off, for the last several decades. I've lost count of how many crash landings and mutilated little alien bodies have been covered up by the government since 1945.

What amazes me, however, is how successful the cover-up has been — particularly when just about everything else the government tries to cover up ends up leaking like a Destruction Derby radiator.

At any rate, Mr. Good (who, by a remarkable coincidence, happens to be coming out with a book on this very subject in July) says that a government committee was created by President Truman to investigate reports of unidentified aircraft in the U.S., and that in 1947 the committee launched a search for a UFO that reportedly crashed in a remote area of New Mexico. Committee members found the wreck, he says, and the bodies of "four humanoid creatures," and immediately set about covering the whole thing up (even though disclosure by any one of them would almost certainly guarantee a book with the biggest advance sale in publishing history). Government investigators are a remarkably selfless lot.)

**T**HE THING that seems to bother the people who subscribe to the cover-up theory is that it deprives us of the chance to learn what these little creatures from outer space are really like; but I don't buy that.

Anybody can figure out what they're like just by using his or her brains and *thinking* about it. That's what I've been doing. (I try to set aside a few minutes every day for thinking. On occasion, I've managed to think for as long as 15 minutes at a stretch, although I've usually had to go and lie down somewhere afterward.)

Purely by the power of deductive reasoning, I've managed to come up with a pretty good profile of these extraterrestrial visitors:

They're not very smart; they're nearsighted, shy, and afraid of bright lights; they have a poor diet, but they're fond of French cooking and Mexican food. They're also pretty poor pilots.

**M**Y CONVICTION that they're poor pilots stems from the fact that they keep crashing. And there are never any survivors — just a bunch of little dead bodies that the government hurriedly whisks away and hides somewhere. They've been crashing fairly regularly since the late '40s.

What makes me think they're not very smart is that, when they do manage a landing of any sort, it's always in the remotest section of Arizona, Texas, or New Mexico. Think about that for a moment. If you were an intelligent creature, had just traveled millions of miles through space, and could select any place on earth to land, it seems to me the *last* place you'd pick would be some godforsaken spot in Texas.

The fact that they're short indicates a poor diet; and their fondness for Arizona and New Mexico is what makes me suspect they like Mexican food. I deduce their liking for French food from the fact that they also tend to hang around swamps — the government, in fact, keeps trying to explain away UFO sightings as "swamp gas" — marshes, bogs, and fens. (Actually, I'm not sure just what a bog or a fen is, but I think they're pretty much the same thing. In crossword puzzles, when the clue is *bog* the answer is usually *fen*, and vice-versa.) Anyway, there's no civilization in swamps and marshes. About the only thing you find there is frogs, which makes me suspect they're fond of frogs' legs — decidedly a French dish.

**I** KNOW they're shy because, when any aircraft approaches them, they immediately pull away "at great speed." They obviously don't like bright lights because they shun all our major cities. And what makes me think they're nearsighted is all those landings in the boondocks.

The only reasonable explanation I can come up with for those choices is that the aliens keep mistaking cactus for people. Cactus plants, particularly the larger ones, *can* look like people from the air. But unless you're pretty nearsighted you're not going to land and start talking to one. Maybe they've even tried to shake hands with a cactus, which may account for their subsequent shyness.

Some may say, "But if all that is true, why are alien spacecraft coming here, at all. What is the *purpose* of these visits?" I would've thought that was obvious by now:

The purpose of alien spacecraft is to keep supermarket tabloids in business.

# UFOs make news again

## A lot of people are seeing a lot of things, a deputy sheriff says

By PATTI THORN

Rocky Mountain News Staff Writer

**IT HAPPENED** one hot May night.

"We were sittin' down on Pearl and we were waitin' for the pizza guy," says Ana Dekker, 12. "Then we were watchin' a lot of airplanes go by."

"You know how most of them have lights on 'em?" says Ana's friend Rhonda Courtney, 10.

She cracks her gum.

One plane, she says, was different. "See, the lights were moving. You know how most airplanes are sorta loud? It was just sorta silent. It was, like, triangular. And it was spinning around in a circle."

Suddenly, they forgot all about the pizza.

"I was scared. I was shaking and crying," says Rhonda.

"We all were, actually," says another friend, Tricia Heit, 12. "Shaking and crying."

It was around 10 p.m. It was going to be a long night.



UFOs are making news again. This month marks the 40th anniversary of the first "modern" UFO sighting, several saucer-shape objects spotted near Mount Rainier. In commemoration, UFO fans have scheduled conferences in Washington, D.C., Los Angeles and New York City.

As if on cue, Whitley Strieber's book, *Communion*, based on supposed true UFO stories, has shot like a rocket up the best-seller list.

And Coloradans seem to have caught UFO fever, as well.

The same week three girls in Arapahoe County say they spotted a UFO, dozens of Glenwood Springs residents reported bright multicolored lights in the sky northwest of town.

And not just any residents. Four police officers also saw the green, red and blue mystery lights.

If this is a fad, it's bound to be a big one.

Two-thirds of Americans believe UFOs might or probably exist, according to a recent opinion poll.

And you can count Tricia, Rhonda and Ana among them.

On a recent afternoon, they sit on the couch at Rhonda's house, which borders Littleton, duded up in their eye-shadow, oversize jean jackets and all. When one talks, the other jumps in to finish the thought. In between comments, Rhonda plays with her gum.

It began, they say, while waiting for the pizza. "Not our pizza," volunteers Ana. "someone else's pizza. We prank called 'em."

"Don't write that," says Tricia, elbowing Ana.

Everyone giggles nervously.

And they continue. They were looking up at the sky when they suddenly saw the lights: red, white and blue, circling around the craft. The vehicle hovered for a minute, about 5 feet above a nearby tree. Then they thought they saw it land in a field a few blocks away.

"Ana goes, 'That's weird,'" says Tricia. "I go, 'I know, it doesn't look like an airplane.' Then Rhonda goes," — all three say this together — "'IT MUST BE A UFO.'"

**SOON AFTER**, Arapahoe County Deputy Sheriff Vincent Cecilione got a call over his radio: UFO sighting. He wasn't impressed.

"A lot of time you get calls," he says, "like this guy called one time who wore paper clips (strung together) till they touched the ground. He thought he needed to be grounded all the time. . . . Normally, you would think it's a prank, someone's fooling around."

After all, UFOs aren't often sighted in the suburbs.

"I've worked here 11 years and I don't know of one (UFO sighting)," says Jan DiMaggio, staff assistant for the Greenwood Village Police Department. "We have different kinds of sightings."

For instance? "People on rooftops with BB guns shooting birds, stuff like that."

"We've had wild bears," says Sgt. Tim Mitchell, spokesman for the Englewood Police Department. "A bull got loose from the fairgrounds once. But never a UFO."

Even in Denver, where strange sightings occur daily, Sgt. Tony Lombard, public information officer, can't remember a UFO report.

But Cecilione was willing to keep an open mind. And when he arrived at Rhonda's house, he didn't find pranksters. "It wasn't your typical mentally ill subject I thought it'd be," he says.

The girls were all talking at once, all breathless, all scared. They pointed him in the direction of the field.

Because he rides with a police dog, he told them to meet him at the field — but they didn't stay long. "They were so scared when they were there," he recalls, "I told them to go home."

(They weren't scared of the UFO, they say. They were terrified to walk past a house where a murder had occurred "a long time ago." "We had a great big argument about whether to go or not," says Ana.)

They weren't the only ones on edge. Cecilione was wondering what to look for as he approached the field. Burn marks on the ground? A crater? "You just don't know," he says.

He asked three men who lived near the field if they had seen anything.

"These guys had just gotten home. They had a little liquor in 'em. I said three girls saw a UFO and they were like, 'Wow, let's meet the members of the Third World.' I said 'C'mon guys, gimme a break.' They said, 'Yeah, we'll go with you and shake the martians' hands. give 'em a beer.'"

He chuckles. "They were a lotta fun, these guys."

CONT' NEXT PAGE

No one knows what aliens are like. But the three girls spent part of that night speculating.

"We were saying they probably look like us, except talk different," says Rhonda.

"And Rhonda goes, 'It could have been ET picking a flower,' something like that. That made me crack up," says Ana.

Finally, at 4:30 a.m., their curiosity got the best of them.

Armed with a flashlight and two sticks ("Just in case something. . .," says Ana, who never finishes the thought), they marched into the field with Brian, Rhonda's 14-year-old brother.

"And that's when we saw the black marks on the trees," says Brian.

They found three trees, he says, grouped together in triangular shape (just like the aircraft, they point out), with what looked like burn marks on their trunks.

**T**O THE GIRLS, it was proof of alien visitors.

To Mary Courtney, Brian and Rhonda's mom, it was proof of something else. "You know how kids are when they're all together. They'd see a ghost if someone told them there was one. And they'd swear it to be true."

She believes the "burn" marks were medication placed on the trees. She went out to the field and saw black marks on a bunch of trees, not just three.

And the alien aircraft? "I tried to talk them into the helicopter idea. They have red, white and blue lights."

A month later, the youngsters won't be swayed. Even if the black marks aren't burns, they say, they still saw strange lights.

"No. I don't think we imagined it," says Ana.

"Why would they all imagine it at once?" says Brian.

"And why would we all be crying?" says Rhonda.

"We believe," says Tricia.

The month of the UFO is well under way. And with two out of three of us alien believers, we could be in for a dizzy ride in the days to come.

Just ask the citizens in Glenwood Springs, who still can't explain the lights, bright as stars, that appeared one week in May.

Or talk to Cecilione.

"The thing is — I don't want to start sounding like this thing happened or anything," he says, still intrigued by the call that hot night. "The thing is, this field is big enough for something to land. . ."

His thought trails off.

"You never know. A lot of people are seeing a lot of things."

PA-D43 JOHNSTOWN TRIBUNE DEMOCRAT JUNE 10 1987

# Meteor theory on flash of light

By James W. Siehl  
The Tribune-Democrat

If not the flash of a downed aircraft, what was it that scared a group of campers in the mountains near Seward around 10 p.m. Sunday, touching off an extensive, but fruitless, search?

Stan Gordon of Greensburg, director of the Pennsylvania Association for the Study of the Unexplained, said Tuesday he was assuming it might have been a meteor.

Adding support to the meteor theory are reports that no flight plans had been filed with the regional radar center in Cleveland nor with the Flight Service Station in Altoona that would have placed an airplane in the area in the time period. In addition, no overdue crafts or missing planes have been reported.

## Uncertain about loud noise

Attempting to account for the loud noise heard by the campers, Mr. Gordon said he did not know whether it was motor noise or a type of wind velocity they were describing.

Mr. Gordon said that a sound similar to a sonic boom sometimes accompanies a bright meteor. He said it also will give the impression of an aircraft on fire or a plane going down

in a crash.

"What bothers me, it is the only report," he said. "Normally, a bright meteor is seen over a large area. Normally, after really brilliant meteors, there are quite a few calls from other sources. At this point, we have not heard from anyone else who saw it."

Alan Jenkins of 195 Barron Ave., one of the campers, said he had been in the company of three others sitting around a fire in the Big Springs vicinity when a plane appeared to pass low right over their heads.

"I couldn't see anything right then," he recalled, "but I didn't make a 360-degree look around. I did glance from right to left the way I was sitting."

"After that, there was like a two-or three-second silence — and then a real loud explosion and a flash of light."

Mr. Jenkins described the flash as "a real bright, brilliant white light." And, he said, "It wasn't that far away."

## Closeness was frightening

The location is what made the experience so frightening.

"When I first heard the explosion, I actually thought they dropped a bomb — is what I thought," Mr. Jenkins said. "We just packed up there

and got out of there. We were packed up within five minutes. Dumped all of the ice out of the freezer chest right on the fire. Threw everything in the truck and got out of there."

Mr. Jenkins said it took the group 45 minutes to an hour to clear the woods and report the incident to the authorities.

He said his recollection of the sound overhead seemed like a turbo jet engine — more engine roar than wind. He and his friends also considered that the loud noise and flash that followed may have been made by an aircraft breaking the sound barrier.

"We kicked that idea around, but I don't think so," Mr. Jenkins said, "because we would have heard the plane after that."

## May 1 incident

According to Mr. Gordon, an unexplained incident took place at 12:15 a.m. May 1 between New Florence and Bolivar.

He said a very brilliant shaft of luminescent white light had been seen over the woods, extending to the tree-tops. The beam was described as approximately five feet wide and was raised and lowered six different times over a five-minute period, Mr. Gordon said. Strangely, the light did not penetrate the floor of the woods. It just lit up the tops of trees, Mr. Gordon said.

A high percentage of UFO-sighting reports have logical explanations, Mr. Gordon said. Some of them turn out to be misidentifications — lights on aircraft, meteors, bright stars and planets.

# Reports of strange lights in sky predate airplanes and helicopters

By Catharine Huddle  
Journal Writer

To those who think UFOs are 20th century phenomena, consider this report from the Feb. 26, 1897, Nebraska State Journal.

"People of Beatrice, Wymore and Hastings were excited last night over the appearance of a strange light about half a mile above the ground."

This was years before Wilbur and Orville Wright took to the skies over Kitty Hawk, N.C. There were no airplanes or helicopters to be used as convenient explanations for unidentified flying objects then.

"The light was kite-shaped and the color of a lantern . . . It is claimed that fully 100 saw it," the State Journal story said. "It was traveling in a northwesterly direction. At Hastings it seemed to be about half a mile above ground and was moving towards the Kansas line."

## Lighted kites?

Yes, there were kites, and a 1978 Nebraska State Historical Society publication indicates that Juniata resident M.R. McLean often flew kites as a hobby. Sometimes, he flew them at night, with lanterns attached.

OK. Maybe it was a kite.

But what about the reports of the early afternoon crash of an "aerolite" northwest of Benkelman in Dundy County on June 6, 1884?

According to a story in the Nebraska Daily State Journal, rancher John W. Ellis was riding herd 35 miles northwest of Benkelman with three ranch hands when a blazing metallic ball fell to the earth.

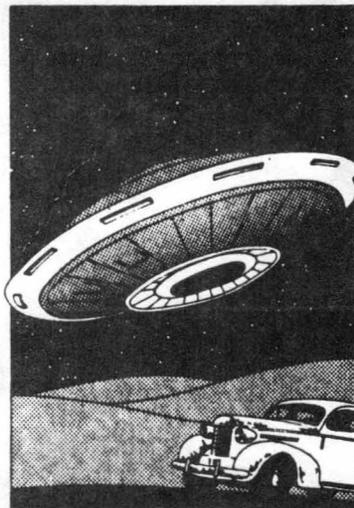
"Gallop[ing] towards it with all their speed, they were astounded to see several fragments of cogwheels and other pieces of machinery lying on the ground," the story said.

"The aerolite, or whatever it is, seems to be about 50 or 60 feet long, cylindrical, and about 10 or 12 feet in diameter," the story said.

## Vessel dissolved

Thirty minutes later, a driving, blizzardlike rainstorm hit. When it was over, the vessel was gone.

"They were astounded to find that the queer object had melted, dissolved by the water like a spoonful of salt," a se-



## FLYING SAUCER ANNIVERSARY June 24

The anniversary of the first reported sighting of a "flying saucer". Kenneth Arnold of Boise, Idaho, claimed to have seen a flying saucer over Mount Rainier in Washington on this day in 1947.

SOURCE: Chases  
© News America Syndicate, 1986

quel to the original story reports. "Scarcely a vestige remained. Small jellylike pools stood here and there on the ground, but under the eyes of the observers these grew thinner and thinner till they were but muddy water joining the rills that led to the current a few feet away. The air was filled with a faint sweetish smell."

Despite these century- and near-century-old reports, the first official reported sighting of a "flying saucer" was 40 years ago Wednesday over Mount Rainier in Washington.

It is fitting, then, that a 35-year-old so-called top-secret government document regarding the activities of Operation Majestic-12 — "a TOP SECRET Research and Development/Intelligence operation responsible directly and only to the President of the United States" — recently was made public by UFO researchers William L. Moore, Jaime H. Shandera and Stanton T. Friedman, who claim that someone "leaked" it to them.

The document, a copy of which was

sent to the Lincoln Journal by Ray Boeche, a local researcher of unexplained phenomena, allegedly was prepared Nov. 18, 1952, for President-elect Dwight D. Eisenhower as a preliminary briefing on the activities of Operation Majestic-12. It details the June 24, 1947, sighting by a civilian pilot of nine disc-shaped aircraft over the Cascade Mountains in Washington.

Investigation of the incident revealed little, but the government moved in after a later report that one of the craft had crashed northwest of Roswell Army Base in New Mexico.

"Aerial reconnaissance discovered that four small humanlike beings had apparently ejected from the craft at some point before it exploded. These had fallen to earth about two miles east of the wreckage site," the report says. "All four were dead and badly decomposed due to action by predators and exposure to the elements during the approximately one-week time period which had elapsed before their discovery."

## Bodies allegedly removed

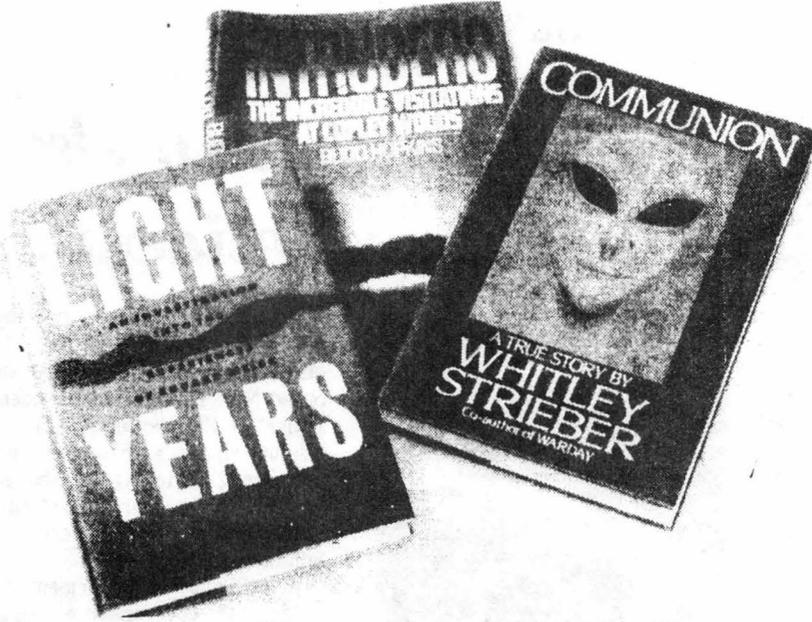
The document goes on to say the bodies and the craft were removed from the site, civilian and military witnesses in the area were debriefed and "news reporters were given the effective cover story that the object had been a misguided weather research balloon."

"Since it is virtually certain that these craft do not originate in any country on Earth, considerable speculation has centered around what their point of origin might be and how they get here," the report says. "Mars was and remains a possibility, although some scientists . . . consider it more likely that we are dealing with beings from another solar system entirely."

Although the Moore-Shandera-Friedman team is not certain of the document's authenticity, a release accompanying the document says, its contents appear to be genuine.

"Implications for the National Security are of continuing importance in that the motives and ultimate intentions of these visitors remain completely unknown," the 1952 document says.

Today, the government no longer investigates UFOs, and the visitors' motives and intentions remain unknown.



American publishers are experiencing a Close Encounter of the Third Kind, a phenomenon that has produced one runaway best-seller, "Communion," and two other popular books, "Light Years" and "Intruders."

JOHN STANO/  
Detroit Free Press

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# Big bucks from outer space

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They're back.

We're talking about UFO books, which have resurfaced (or is that materialized?) in a big way after a 10-year absence. Not only have they returned, but they've caught the attention of millions of Earthlings. American publishers are experiencing the greatest Close Encounter of the Third Kind in their history, a phenomenon that has produced one runaway best-seller ("Communion," Morrow) and two other popular books ("Light Years," Atlantic Monthly Press, and "Intruders," Random House).



Kinder

## TWO THINGS DISTINGUISH

the current wave of aliens-from-out-there books from their predecessors:

- They've abandoned the cuteness stuff (no more flying saucers with fins; no more "E.T., where are you?") for the terrifying (Whitley Strieber, who wrote "Communion," concentrates on "human suffering," and Budd Hopkins, author of "Intruders," specializes in abduction stories).
- They've been published by respectable companies with enormous success ("Communion" has been on the New York Times best-seller list for 15 weeks and "Intruders" and "Light Years" have enjoyed brisk, if not phenomenal, sales).

Gary Kinder, author of "Light Years," which deals with a controversial case in which a Swiss farmer claims to have hobnobbed with amiable aliens from the Pleiades, believes the current wave of interest becomes self-perpetuating.

"When people begin to read books about the phenomenon, they tend to jump on the bandwagon. UFOs are back in the news (the sighting by a Japanese airline pilot last November caused a groundswell of interest) and Strieber, Hopkins and I have appeared on many talk shows."

Strieber says he, his wife and his eight-year-old son

were victimized by aliens who subjected them to weird experiments that resembled anal and cranial rape.

Hopkins spent 12 years interviewing and examining the stories of 132 people who claimed to have been abducted by aliens. "However one wishes to theorize about these accounts," he says, "something important is going on, something which demands open-minded, scientific investigation."

**KINDER SAYS HE IS IMPRESSED** by the number of UFO believers who "came out of the closet" when the new books began appearing.

"You wouldn't believe some of the people," he said. "Talk show hosts will tell me privately about their own experiences. This is not lights-in-the-sky talk; they're talking about something that's 100 yards wide with lights on all sides."

Kinder, 40, a lawyer from Idaho, maintains an air of skepticism about UFOlogy, although he refuses to discount the stories he's been told. "They're by respected people in the community," he said.

**WHAT WAS** his most awesome story? This is how Kinder told it:

*"A man approached me during a book tour. He said he was 20 years old, never drank or took drugs. He told me he was driving one night when what looked like a star followed his car for two hours. Then the star went ahead of the car and turned into a fog bank, which dropped over his car. The car stopped. After that he remembers watching the fog bank lift and turn back into a flying object. He says he could see lights all around it. When it took off he looked at his watch. It was running and the car started. He drove to the next city. When he got there the watch was 41 minutes slow."*

"I don't know how you refute a story like that," said Kinder.

Although skeptics may sneer at the current wave of UFO books, they can't discount the rewards of such ventures. Strieber, who wrote the novels "Warday" and "The Wolfen," got a solid \$1 million for "Communion." And that, as they say in the publishing cosmos, is out of this world.